

PACKET UNSTOPPER SYSTEM
FOR A PARALLEL PACKET SWITCH

ABSTRACT

A system for controlling egress buffer saturation

5 includes, for each data packet flow, a comparator for comparing the number of data packets 'WPC' temporarily stored within an egress buffer to a predefined threshold value 'WPCth'. The packet sequence number 'PSNr' of a last received in-sequence data packet and each highest packet sequence

10 number 'HPSNj' received through respective ones of the plurality of switching planes is stored. By comparing the last received in-sequence packet sequence number 'PSNr' to each highest packet sequence number 'HPSNj' when the number of data packets 'WPC' exceeds the predefined threshold value

15 'WPCth' a determination as to which switching plane(s), among the plurality of switching planes, to unstopp the flow of data packets can be made.